

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 SAIGON 07147 250711 Z

20

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 IO-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

OMB-01 GAC-01 RSR-01 DPW-01 /097 W  
----- 025222

P R 250246 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0685

INFO USDEL JEC PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 7147

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT PINS MILI VS

SUBJECT: CEASEFIRE AND POLITICAL SITREP MR 1, APRIL 24, 1973

FOL TEL SENT ACTION SAIGON FROM DANANG DTD APRIL 24, 1973  
RPTD TO YOU FOR YOUR INFO

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L DANANG 0442

### 1. MILITARY ACTIVITIES:

MILITARY ACTION IN MR I WAS AGAIN AT A LOW LEVEL WITH TWO  
GROUND ATTACKS, 18 ATTACKS BY FIRE ( ABF' S) AND ONE OTHER  
INCIDENT. TOTAL CASUALTIES WERE: FRIENDLY, TWO KIA,  
19 WIA AND 13 MIA; ENEMY, TEN KIA. FRIENDLY ATRILLERY  
AGAIN EXPENDED MORE THAN 3,000 ROUNDS; 1,891 ROUNDS NORTH OF THE  
HAI VAN PASS AND 1,401 SOUTH, FOR A TOTAL OF 3,292.

### 2. ICCS:

A. COLONEL NGO VAN LOI, PROVINCE CHIEF ( PC) OF QUANG NGAI, HAS  
RECOMMENDED TO I CORPS NOT TO PRESS FOR AN INVESTIGATION OF  
RECENTLY PLACED MINES AROUND HILL 21, AN RF OUTPOST RE- ESTABLISHED  
IN SON TINH DISTRICT AT THE TIME OF THE CEASEFIRE ABOUT TEN KILO-  
METERS NORTHEAST OF QUANG NGAI CITY NEAR THE COAST. THE PC TOLSC  
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THE AREA DIRECTOR QUANG NGAI THAT ALTHOUGH I CORPS HAD SUGGESTED THE INVESTIGATION, HE RECOMMENDED AGAINST IT BECAUSE HE COULD NOT GUARANTEE THE SECURITY OF AN ICCS TEAM VISITING THE AREA. AREA DIRECTOR COMMENT: PC' S REAL REASON FOR ADVISING AGAINST INVESTIGATION MAY HAVE BEEN FEAR THAT THE ICCS MIGHT CRITICIZE ARVN OPERATIONS IN THIS AREA PREVIOUSLY DOMINATED BY THE VC. PARTICULARLY MINE LAYING CAN BE INTERPRETED AS A DEFENSIVE MEASURE. END COMMENT.

B. AREA DIRECTOR QUANG NGAI REPORTS THAT MEMBERS OF REGION II CANDEL AND INDODEL JOINED THEIR COMPATRIOTS OF THE CHU LAI SUB-REGION TEAM TO VISIT THE NAVY JUNK FLEET BASE AT PHU THO ABOUT NINE KILOMETERS EAST OF QUANG NGAI CITY ON APRIL 21. ALTHOUGH INVITED, POLDELL AND HUNGDEL REPRESENTATIVES DID NOT ATTEND.

3. GVN ACTIVITIES:

QUANG NGAI PROVINCE AUTHORITIES ARE INCREASINGLY CONCERNED WITH THE GROWING VOLUME OF ILLEGAL TRADE WITH VC CONTROLLED AREAS( REF DANANG 400). THE GVN HAS ORDERED ADDITIONAL STEPS TO CUT OFF THIS TRADE, INCLUDING THE MINING AND LAYING BOOBY TRAPS IN THE SMALL PATHS USED TO BYPASS CHECKPOINTS. POLICE AND TERRITORIAL FORCES OFFICERS HAVE BEEN ORDERED TO ACCOMPANY PATROLS AND BE PRESENT AT CHECKPOINTS TO COUNTER THE POSSIBILITY OF PARTICIPATION BY THE RANK AND FILE OF GVN SECURITY UNITS. BROWN UNQUOTE BUNKER

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NMAFVVZCZ

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

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